

# Benefit claims

## Non-dependants



**Braintree**  
District Council

2008

## **A** Who is a non-dependant?

A Non-Dependant is an adult aged 18 or over who lives in the household and is assumed to be making a contribution to the rent and Council Tax. Account is taken of this in the Housing and Council Tax Benefit Schemes by a system of deductions which will reduce the maximum benefit that could be awarded. If you are aged 65 and over, the non-dependant deduction is not made for 26 weeks from the date they move in.

## **B** Who are not non-dependants?

The following people are not non-dependants:- Your partner, children for whom you receive child benefit, joint owners, joint tenants and sub-tenants, boarders who pay you a commercial rent.



# The deductions from benefits 2008/2009

Non-Dependant Circumstances	Benefit Paid Over:		
	48 Weeks Private Tenants Deductions from Rent Allowance	52 Weeks Private Tenants Deductions from Rent Allowance	52 Weeks Owners/ Tenants Deductions from Council Tax
<b>(1) Working 16 hrs. or more per week and gross income is:</b>			
a. Income less than £116	£8.02	£7.40	£2.30
b. £116 to £171.66	£18.42	£17.00	£2.30
c. £172 to £222.99	£25.29	£23.35	£4.60
d. £223 to £295.99	£41.38	£38.20	£4.60
e. £296 to £368.99	£47.12	£43.50	£5.80
f. Income over £369	£51.73	£47.75	£6.95
<b>(2) Not working or working less than 16hrs per week</b>	£8.02	£7.40	£2.30

<b>(3) Pension Credit</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>
<b>(4) Income Support or income based Job Seekers Allowance (aged 25 or over)</b>	<b>£8.02</b>	<b>£7.40</b>	<b>NIL</b>
<b>(5) Income Support or income based Job Seekers Allowance (aged 18 - 24)</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>
<b>(6) Youth Training</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>
<b>(7) Full time Student Attending College/ University</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>
<b>(8) In Hospital for more than 52 weeks</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>
<b>(9) In Legal Custody</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>	<b>NIL</b>

# **D Further explanation of non-dependants' circumstances**

## **C. (1) Gross Income**

This is gross earnings (earnings before any deductions) plus any other gross income including actual interest from savings. However, if the gross income includes Attendance Allowance or Disability Living Allowance, these will be ignored as income.

## **C. (2) Not Working**

This includes non-dependants whose income, for example, is state pension, Jobseeker's Allowance, employment training, incapacity benefit and statutory sick or maternity pay (where not currently working). Also part-time workers working less than 16 hours per week.

## **C. (6) Students**

There is no deduction while studying full-time but if they work during the summer vacation, deductions to the benefit will apply.

## **E Non-dependant couples married or unmarried**

Only one deduction will be made from each type of benefit (rent allowance or council tax benefits) for a couple. Where one or both members of a couple work 16 hours or more a week, their gross income will be combined to decide which deduction should be made (see (C) (1 ) (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) or (f)).

In other instances, it will be whichever member of the couples' circumstances attract the highest deductions (see (C) (2) to (8)).

## **F Exemptions from deductions**

(1) If the applicant or partner is registered blind, receiving Attendance Allowance or the care component of Disability Living Allowance, then no 'non-dependant' deductions will be made from any of the benefits, for other people living in the household.

(2) No 'non-dependant' deductions will



be made from Council Tax Benefit for any people who would be entitled to a discount from the Council Tax. However, there may still be a deduction from rent allowances.

## **Changes of non-dependants' circumstances**

You must notify the Council immediately if any of the following changes occur in your non dependants' circumstances:-

- (1) An increase or decrease in their income.
- (2) They start or stop work.
- (3) They start or stop receiving Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance (Income based)
- (4) A non-dependant moves in or out of your accommodation.
- (5) A child of 18 years leaves school and you stop receiving child benefit.
- (6) Any other changes which you think may affect the non-dependant deductions from your benefits.

# Direct line numbers to the Benefits Section

**Braintree** .....(01376) 557852  
**Witham** .....(01376) 557851  
**Halstead** .....(01376) 557853

## **Benefits Section**

Braintree District Council  
Causeway House  
Bocking End  
Braintree  
Essex CM7 9HB

email: [csc@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:csc@braintree.gov.uk)  
[www.braintree.gov.uk](http://www.braintree.gov.uk)



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